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CHLOPAK LEONARD SCHECHTER
AND ASSOCIATES

Memorandum

To Department of Justice
From Chlopak, Leonard, Schechter & Associates
Registration number 5774
Date June 5, 2009
Re Distributing Advisories for Foreign Agents

The attached memorandum was sent out a list of 100 top Ed-boards on June 4, 2009.

2009 JUN -5 PM 2:14
COMM/REGISTRATION UNIT

Egypt: At the fulcrum of the Muslim World

Dear Editorial Page Editor:

This morning, in his speech from Cairo, President Obama took the first step in resetting the relationship between the United States and the Islamic world.

As the Director of the Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies in Cairo, I have observed the politics of the Middle East and the Muslim world for more than quarter of a century (to read an opinion piece I wrote last month for the Wall Street Journal please visit <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124087394756961155.html>).

This morning President Obama noted that, we stand at a critical juncture, "a time of tension between the United States and Muslims around the world – tension rooted in historical forces that go beyond any current policy debate." The Islamic world is not a monolith. It is instead a patchwork of different geographies, cultures and governments. There are areas of the Muslim world where democracy and western values are in retreat, pushed back by the forces of fundamentalism and extremism. And among many Muslim communities, America is widely viewed with suspicion and often outright hostility.

In contrast, Egypt has worked hard to bridge the divide between America and the Islamic community over the years. Egypt – home to a quarter of the world's Arabs - is an example of an Islamic country which has successfully resisted fundamentalism, demonstrated economic growth and maintained strong institutions, peace and security. As you formulate your editorials on today's speech, I urge you to consider the close relationship that Egypt has with the United States.

Egypt is a faithful friend of the U.S.:

As President Obama said today, there some nations and people, "eager to stoke the flames of division, and to stand in the way of progress." America needs the continued support of longstanding Islamic partners. Over the past thirty years, Egypt has proved to be an indispensable Islamic ally of the U.S.

For the last three decades, Egypt has kept its promise to America to maintain diplomatic relations with Israel. The bilateral relationship between America and Egypt is of critical importance with extensive intelligence sharing between the two countries. The largest joint military exercises outside the continental USA take place with Egypt. Alongside Egyptian forces, the US Army Corps of Engineers is working to stop the smuggling of weapons into Gaza. And it's thanks to Egypt that American nuclear aircraft carriers are able to transit through the Suez Canal.

Egypt is an Arbiter of Peace:

President Obama made significant mention of the need to resolve the Palestinian issue. Egypt is critical to this effort. It was the first Arab country to recognize the state of Israel and has served as the model by which other nations have made their own peace.

It is the only country brokering ceasefire talks between Hamas and Israel, and it is the host to negotiations between the two Palestinian factions to create a single unified Palestinian government.

Responsible, moderating partners, such as Egypt, are not only a political desire for this American President, they are a global necessity if change and peace are to become lasting.

Egypt provides stability and moderation:

Egypt has walked the difficult line between progress and stability. While other Islamic nations have allowed radicalism to flourish, Egypt has served as a moderating influence, maintaining its strong institutions and encouraging progressive developments while rooting out radical elements from within its own borders.

Its track record in human rights and democratization may not be perfect but it has worked to bring about change. The opening up of the 2005 Presidential elections to outside contenders for the first time; the 2009 release of political leader Ayman Nour and the recent lifting of charges against Saad Eddin Ibrahim are recent examples.

Egypt has a long history of religious tolerance, with one of the oldest Christian populations in the world. With the world's second oldest degree granting university Al-Azhar University in Cairo and over 500 free press newspapers, journals and magazines and an estimated 162,000 bloggers, political discussion and debate about the future of the Muslim and Arab worlds is extensive.

Egypt exemplifies the way forward:

Hearing President Obama say today, that he seeks "a new beginning between the United States and Muslims around the world; one based upon mutual interest and mutual respect; and one based upon the truth that America and Islam are not exclusive, and need not be in competition," gives hope that we will see the United States counting more Islamic nations in the same ranks that it already considers Egypt –ally, friend and partner.

The close relationship that Egypt has with the United States is in marked contrast to the difficulties that America has encountered in many other parts of the Muslim world. With Egypt, President Obama has a partner that believes that America is a force for good in the world, and stands with the United States in its search to bring peace and stability.

Dr. Abdel Monem Said Aly

Director of the Al Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies

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State Information Service
Cairo Foreign Press Center



Ministry of Information
Arab Republic of Egypt

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 4, 2009

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EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT COMMENTS ON PRESIDENT OBAMA'S SPEECH IN CAIRO

Egyptian Prime Minister Doctor Ahmed Nazif was interviewed by CBS News Correspondent Lara Logan. The interview aired on the CBS Evening News with Katie Couric Wednesday evening, June 3 in advance of U.S. President Barack Obama's address to the Muslim World.

In the interview with Ms. Logan, Prime Minister Ahmed Nazif said that the speech came at a critical time:

"Time is working against us," Nazif said. "I think time is of the essence - we need to work fast and this is the message we've been getting from the administration...I think it's very important that it would happen in the first year of this administration." He continued, "The Israeli-Palestinian issue is the core - you solve this problem and you'll find that many other issues have to fall in line."

Prime Minister Nazif, the second youngest prime minister in the history of modern Egypt, has led a team of technocrats which has successfully modernized Egypt's economy, reduced inflation and produced a number of significant constitutional reforms. He is also known for his expertise in information technology (IT) and telecommunications.

For more on the interview, please click [here](#).

Mr. Gamal Mubarak, son of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, was interviewed by ABC Co-Anchor Christopher Cuomo. The interview aired this morning on ABC's Good Morning America immediately following President Obama's address to the Muslim World.

Mr. Mubarak commented on the U.S. role in the Middle East and President Obama's trip to the Middle East:

"If you really want to address the real issue in the region, if you are to re-establish U.S. leadership in that very important part of the world, this is the beginning and the start of a message of respect, a message of understanding, a message of reaching out... this is a sign of strength."

Mr. Mubarak currently holds the position of Deputy Secretary General of the National Democratic Party (NDP) of Egypt, which holds a large majority of seats in the Egyptian parliament. He also heads the party's policies-setting committee within the NDP.

Please click [here](#) for video of the interview.

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JUNE 3, 2009

MEDIA ADVISORY

**EGYPT PRIME MINISTER AHMED NAZIF INTERVIEW
AIRS ON CBS EVENING NEWS TONIGHT**

CBS News Correspondent Lara Logan interviewed Egyptian Prime Minister Doctor Ahmed Nazif on Tuesday, June 2nd, 2009. The interview will air on the CBS Evening News with Katie Couric tonight at 6:30 p.m. EST.

The interview took place in advance of President Obama's address to the Muslim World, which will take place on Thursday, June 4, from Cairo University.

Prime Minister Nazif, the second youngest prime minister in the history of modern Egypt, has led a team of technocrats which has successfully modernized Egypt's economy, reduced inflation and produced a number of significant constitutional reforms. He is also known for his expertise in information technology (IT) and telecommunications.

Press Kit

Media traveling to Cairo for President Obama's address to the Muslim world can access a downloadable press kit which contains helpful information relevant to Egypt, the speech, the Middle East and Islam.

To download the press kit in pdf form, please use the following instructions:

- Go to <http://www.clsdc.com/viewFiles.cfm>, or click the "FTP" link at the bottom right of www.clsdc.com
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The Islamic Research Council (IRS) is one of the premier Islamic authorities that primarily speaks in the name of Al-Azhar, the most respected and influential Sunni institution in the Muslim world. IRC is a compendium of 50 senior Muslim Scholars from various Muslim countries headed by the Grand Imam Sheikh Mohammad Syed Tantawi.

**STATEMENT OF ISLAMIC RESEARCH COUNCIL OF AL-AZHAR MOSQUE
ON PRESIDENT OBAMA'S SPEECH TO THE MUSLIM WORLD**

Cairo, Egypt - On the occasion of President Barack Obama's historic visit to Egypt and his speech to the Muslim World which he gave today at Cairo University, the Members of the Islamic Research Council (IRC) welcome President Obama's visit as a clear gesture of goodwill and respect.

This gesture is particularly welcome given the fact that President Obama chose Egypt as the venue of his speech to the Muslim World, in recognition of its rich legacy and profound influence on the Islamic World, by virtue of it taking place at Al-Azhar - the seat of the most respected and influential Sunni institution of Islamic scholarship and education in the world.

The Members of the IRC view President Obama's speech as indicative of a **promising new era in relations between America and the Arab and the Muslim worlds, and that paves the way for real dialogue among civilizations, rather than conflict**, which some may want us to believe is unavoidable.

The Members commend President Obama for his deep appreciation for the Islamic faith and the contributions of Islamic civilization over the centuries in shaping the world for the better, and for his assertion that America seeks greater engagement and a true partnership with the Muslim world based upon mutual respect.

The Members wish to assert that they share with President Obama the goal of a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace in the Middle East, particularly between Palestine and Israel. The IRC strongly calls upon him to make progress towards achieving such a peace in the region. They also welcome his initiative to end the occupation of Iraq and withdraw U.S. forces. The Members stress that a similar initiative should be made in Afghanistan.

The Members assure the American people that the concerns of most Muslims are identical to those of most Americans, and that they have a common desire to lead a peaceful and dignified life. Both Muslims and Americans face a common threat posed by extremism and terrorism, which people of all religions reject.

The IRC Members affirm that throughout its long history, Al-Azhar has provided equal educational opportunities for men and women, and has been devoted to spreading a balanced vision of Islam based on the various recognized Schools of Islamic law and orthodox theology infused with spiritual depth.

Students at Al-Azhar have been taught not only how to master grammar, logic, and law, but also have been given instruction in Islamic ethics and spirituality, qualities which are considered integral parts of effective religious leadership, and development of a culture of dialogue and tolerance. Combined with an understanding of contemporary issues, this holistic approach to religious education continues to draw students from all over the world to study at Al-Azhar. These students return to their countries not only with knowledge, but with the example of a balanced religiosity that, while remaining true to its principles, is able to address the needs of Muslim society in a changing world.

Al-Azhar has long been active in reaching out to other religious communities, both within the Islamic world, and at the international level. This spirit of dialogue can be found in the statements and fatwas of Al-Azhar's Sheikhs, as well as in the activities of its scholars.

The Members of the IRC affirm that there is a great and vast field in which both the Muslim world and the United States can act together, including rejecting terror; defending and promoting the moral values of compassion and justice; spreading goodwill and bridging misunderstandings; and overcoming misconceptions and stereotypes among all peoples of the world.

The Members recognize the necessity of translating these shared commitments into tangible deeds and programs to achieve these noble goals.

H.E. Dr. Mohamed El-Sayed El-Tantawy
Grand Sheikh of Al-Azhar
President of the Islamic Research Council

About the Islamic Research Council (IRC)

Islamic Research Council (IRC) is one of the premier Islamic authorities in the Muslim world that primarily speaks in the name of Al-Azhar, the most respected and influential Sunni institution in the Muslim world, and the most sought out seminary for Islamic instruction.

IRC is a compendium of 50 senior Muslim Scholars from various Muslim countries headed by the Grand Imam of Al Azhar Sheikh Mahammad Syed Tantawi. Other notable member Scholars include: Dr Mahmoud Homdi Zaqzaq, the Minister of Endowment and Islamic affairs; Sheikh Ali Gomaa, the Grand Mufti of Egypt; and Dr Ahmad El Tayyib, the Rector of Al Azhar University.

IRC was established in 1961 with the purpose of being the supreme arbitrator of Islamic legal and cultural discourse. Since its inception, IRC has established itself as one of the world's leading councils of Islamic authority, and has offered wisdom and clarity to Muslims worldwide.

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**INTERVIEW WITH GAMAL MUBARAK, SON OF EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT HOSNI MUBARAK,
AIRS ON ABC'S GOOD MORNING AMERICA JUNE 4, 2009**

Good Morning America's Co-Anchor Christopher Cuomo interviewed Gamal Mubarak on Wednesday, June 3, 2009. The interview will air on ABC's Good Morning America on Thursday morning, June 4, immediately following President Obama's address to the Muslim World.

President Obama's address will take place on Thursday, June 4, at 6:10 a.m. EST, from Cairo University.

Gamal Mubarak is the younger of two sons of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak. Gamal currently holds the position of Deputy Secretary General of the National Democratic Party (NDP) of Egypt, which holds a large majority of seats in the Egyptian parliament. He also heads the party's policies-setting committee within the NDP.

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